

Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111
Serial No. 10/756,398
Attorney Docket No. 032212

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 9 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, the specification and claims 1-7 and 9 have been amended. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated February 22, 2005.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 1-3 and 6-8 are allowable, as indicated on page 3 of the Action.

Specification:

The specification stands objected to on page 2 of the Action due to minor informalities. However, it is submitted that the specification has been amended to correct such informalities. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections:

Claims 1-3, 6-7 stand objected to on page 2 of the Action due to informalities. However, it is submitted that claims 1-3, 6 and 7 have each been amended to overcome these objections. Accordingly, withdrawal of these claims objections is respectfully requested.

Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111
Serial No. 10/756,398
Attorney Docket No. 032212

35 U.S.C. 112, Second Paragraph Rejection:

Claims 4, 5 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter with applicant regards as the invention.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

However, it is respectfully submitted that claims 4, 5 and 9 have each been amended to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

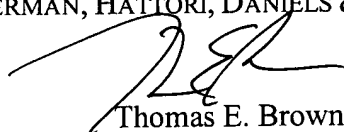
In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111
Serial No. 10/756,398
Attorney Docket No. 032212

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Thomas E. Brown
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,450
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

TEB/jl